

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/710,267
Docket No.: 13435-US-PA

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed Nov. 21, 2005. Applicant submits that some informalities in the specification have been corrected hereby, claim 8 have been amended while no new matter entered, claim 9 have been canceled hereby, and typing error of claim 11 have been amended. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims 1-8 and 10-12 are respectfully requested.

Present Status of the Application

The Office Action rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ayres US Patent 5,947,578. The Office Action rejected claims 8-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Konishi et al., US Patent 6,835,440.

Discussion of Office Action Rejections

The Office Action rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ayres US Patent 5,947,578.

In response to the rejection to claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ayres US Patent 5,947,578, Applicant hereby otherwise traverses this rejection. As such, Applicant submits that claims 1-7 are now in condition for allowance.

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With respect to claim 1, as originally filed, recites in part:

Claim 1 A method of fabricating a light guide plate, comprising the steps of:

providing a molding machine having a cavity therein;

disposing the thin film inside the molding machine such that at least a portion of the transfer material layer is located within the cavity; and

forming a light guide plate body inside the cavity such that the transfer material layer is transferred on the light guide plate body.

Applicant submits that such a method of fabricating a light guide plate as set forth in claim 1 is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Ayres US Patent 5,947,578 or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination.

Ayres US Patent 5,947,578 fails to disclose, teach or suggest a step of "disposing the thin film inside the molding machine such that at least a portion of the transfer material layer is located within the cavity" and a step of "forming a light guide plate body inside the cavity such that the transfer material layer is transferred on the light guide plate body" which are required for the method of fabricating a light guide plate as set forth in claim 1 (emphasis added).

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Therefore, claim 1 as originally filed should not be considered as being anticipated by Ayres US Patent 5,947,578 or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination.

Ayres US Patent 5,947,578 teaches "a light waveguide plate 12 including a light shaping optics 32 extending between the upper and lower surfaces 14, 16 of the waveguide 12 for controllably propagating light rays R from the lamp member 22" (FIG. 2; Column 4, lines 5-9). Although Ayres US Patent 5,947,578 further teaches that "the light shaping optics 32 are slots cut into the waveguide 12 (FIG. 2; Column 4, lines 9 and 10). These linear or curved shaping optics 32 act like a mirror or lens to redistribute light as desired within the waveguide 12 (FIG. 2; Column 4, lines 15-17)." Therefore, it is understood that the light shaping optics 32 is configured inside the waveguide 12 as set forth in Ayres US Patent 5,947,578, which is different from that the light guide plate body is formed within the cavity that is required for the present invention as set forth in claim 1. Ayres US Patent 5,947,578 also fails to teach a portion of the transfer material layer is located within the cavity that is required for the present invention as set forth in claim 1 (emphasis added).

Accordingly, the present invention as set forth in claim 1 should not be considered as being anticipated by Ayres US Patent 5,947,578, and claim 1 should be allowable.

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If independent claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record, its dependent claims 2-7 are allowable as a matter of law, because these dependent claims contain all features of their respective independent claim 1. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

The Office Action rejected claims 8-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Konishi et al., US Patent 6,835,440.

In response to the rejection to claims 8-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Konishi et al., US Patent 6,835,440, Applicant hereby otherwise traverses this rejection. As such, Applicant submits that claims 8 and 10-12 are now in condition for allowance.

With respect to amended claim 8:

Claim 8 A light guide plate, comprising:

a light guide plate body having a light output surface, a bottom surface, at least a light incident surface and a plurality of side surfaces, wherein the light incident surface and the side surfaces are adjacent to and positioned between the bottom surface and the light output surface; and

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a transfer material layer disposed on the bottom surface, wherein the transfer material layer and the light guide plate body are formed into a unity, and there is substantially no gap between the transfer material layer and the light guide plate body.

Applicant submits that such a light guide plate as set forth in claim 8 is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Konishi et al., US Patent 6,835,440 or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination.

The specification of this application described that "Since the transfer material layer 210a is transferred on the bottom surface S5 when the light guide plate body 280 is formed, the transfer material layer 210a and the light guide plate body 280 can be formed into a unity." (Paragraph [0037]). Based on the Paragraph [0037] and Fig. 3, Applicant amend claim 8 as set forth, no new matter added. Konishi et al., US Patent 6,835,440 teaches "a reflection sheet 500 arranged at the reflection face 100c side of the light guide plate 100" (Column 13, lines 14-15), and there is a gap between the reflection sheet 500 and the reflection face 100c side of the light guide plate 100 (FIG. 1B). In other words, the reflection sheet 500 can be separated from the reflection face 100c side of the light guide plate 100. However, in claim 8 of this application, the transfer material layer and the light guide plate body are formed into a unity, and there is substantially no gap between the transfer material layer and the light guide plate body. Applicant submits that Konishi et al., US Patent 6,835,440 fails to disclose, teach or suggest that

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"there is substantially no gap between the transfer material layer and the light guide plate body" which are required for the light guide plate as amended claim 8 (emphasis added). Therefore, amended claim 8 should not be considered as being anticipated by Konishi et al., US Patent 6,835,440 or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination.

Accordingly, the present invention as set forth in claim 8 should not be considered as being anticipated by Konishi et al., US Patent 6,835,440, and claim 8 should be allowable.

If independent claim 8 is allowable over the prior art of record, its dependent claims 10-12 are allowable as a matter of law, because these dependent claims contain all features of their respective independent claim 1. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

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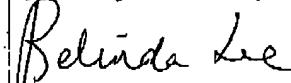
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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-8 and 9-12 are in proper condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Date : *February 21, 2006*

Respectfully submitted,



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